



Competition Rules

CODE OF ETHICS

- Obey and respect the local regulations and conventions that govern fishing in your chosen area.
- Purposefully conduct yourself in a manner such as to minimise any negative impacts on the environment. Being mindful of anchoring and speed restrictions is as important as preventing littering, pollution and habitat destruction.
- The fish's environment should be protected as well as the fish. Do not indulge in littering, in particular with discarded tackle. Disposal of offal and unwanted bait should be undertaken in a manner that is both environmentally sound and publicly acceptable.
- Respect the rights and interests of others especially other anglers and commercial fishers who are legally participating in the fishery.
- Respect the rights of property owners including those that exclude access for personal or cultural reasons and negotiate access to waters rather than trespass.
- Participate where possible in scientific, educational and community programs that benefit the fishery or recreational anglers.
- Fish taken should be killed quickly and should be prepared and preserved in such a manner as to minimise spoilage and waste. Where a fish is not wanted it should be returned in such a manner as maximises its chances of survival. Wanton destruction of undesired species is unacceptable.

1. Competitions are open to all financial/life members of the GS&GFC only.
2. Entries shall be made to the nominated Weigh master on the meeting night prior to the competition, or by arrangement prior to the competition start time accompanied by the entrance fee if deemed required.
3. All Competitions shall be organized by a quorum of the committee.
eg: start/finish times, line class, locations, comp method.
4. The referee will be the weigh master.
5. All fish to be weighed, in the presence of the weighmaster and another financial member.
6. The weigh master shall:
 - a. Weigh all fish submitted during the competition, calculate the points for each fish (for line class competitions) and complete the weigh in sheet.
 - b. Ensure that the rules of the competition have been observed.
 - c. Report to the club the results of the competition on the next meeting night.
 - d. Report any protest to the committee with a written report from the protestor.
 - e. Document each member in attendance at competitions for attendance point
7. Weigh In Protest.

- a. Any competitor lodging a protest shall lodge that protest to the referee within 7 days of the completion of that competition.
 - b. The committee will, if possible, meet prior to the next club meeting to adjudicate the protest. The committee's decision shall be final, and its findings/decision will be reported back to the originator.
8. For all Line Class Competitions: -
- All Adult competitors fish eligible to be weighed must meet club scheduled minimum 25 points unless otherwise specified by the committee prior to each competition
 - All Junior competitors' fish eligible to be weighed have NO minimum points unless otherwise specified by the committee prior to each competition.
9. Any member presenting fish not adhering to in accordance with the DEPI Victorian Recreational Fishing Guide will be disqualified from Club Champion and all prior competitions for that year.
10. Fishing boundaries shall be determined by the committee prior to each competition and only fish caught within these boundaries will be eligible. Fish caught outside these boundaries will not qualify.
11. The start, finish and weigh in times shall be determined by the committee prior to each competition.
12. Anglers must cease fishing at the specified time and be at the weigh-in station by the weigh-in time if any fish are to be presented. These times will be pre-determined by the weighmaster. Any fish that is hooked up within the competition times the angler will be allowed to angle the fish until capture or lost and still be eligible for the weigh-in provided the hook up is verified to the weighmaster/ referee prior to the end of the competition.
13. A parent or guardian shall accompany all juniors and always assume total responsibility whilst fishing during the competition.
14. All fish should be weighed as a whole, cleaned fish may be weighed, however, no adjustment will be made for lost weight. Mutilated fish will not be considered.
15. Each angler must present their own capture to the weigh station.
16. An official club competition must have at least five (5) adult member attending. There must be at least three (3) junior members attending to constitute a junior competition.
17. Competition will be abandoned if insufficient members attend the competition.

18. Competitions with the use of vessels will follow the below processes:
- a. Inclement weather will make competition unsafe. The referee may call the executive committee to vote on abandoning or delaying a competition due to inclement weather. Should a tie vote occur, one of the referees will have the casting vote. The committee shall be responsible for rescheduling any abandoned competition if required.
 - b. If a wind warning of above 21knts is forecasted in the proposed fishing area prior to the commencement of the competition. The weigh master will contact the members.
 - c. A competition will cease if during the competition a wind warning of 21knts and above is issued. The competition is to cease at the time of the warning and all fish that have been caught prior to the end of the competition will be eligible for weigh-in.
19. Weekend / multiple day competitions will be suspended when:
- a. The forecast or weather observation are predicted at over 21knts in the proposed fishing area.
 - b. The competition will resume after the weighmaster
- 20.(a) For all Line Class Competitions the A.N.S.A. system of weight multiplied by the fighting factor, then divided by the line class and multiplied by 100, will be used to determine the points of a capture. The highest points scoring capture, over the minimum points will be deemed the winner of that competition.

Points Formulae: Note Fighting Factor taken from ANSA Booklet

$$\frac{\text{(Weight in kg x fighting factor)}}{\text{(Line Class in kg)}} \times 100 = \text{Number of Points}$$

(b) For open Line class competitions the ANSA system will not be used and the heaviest fish, Longest Fish/Fishes or heaviest bag (depending of competition method) will determine the competition placing's.

21. Use of Lines for Line Class GS&GFC Competitions:-

The Club recommends and encourages use of Pre-test or IGFA approved Monofilament Lines Multi filament lines may be used but must have a pretest monofilament line directly attached to the start of the main line with a minimum length of .5m and no longer than one and a half times the length of the rod used as a breakaway line, the breakaway line will determine the line Class.

22. The Points acquired during official club competitions are tallied up and the person with the highest amount of championship points at the end of that fishing year will be considered club champion, for that fishing year. In the event of one or more persons having the same

amount of points it will be considered a draw and those persons will each receive the award. Points will be awarded as below:

1 st Placing	7 Club Champion Points (including attendance point)
2 nd Placing	5 Club Champion Points (including attendance point)
3 rd Placing	3 Club Champion Points (including attendance point)
Attendance	1 Club Champion point.

23. Only the highest points scoring fish, heaviest fish, Longest Fish/Fishes or heaviest bag (depending of competition method) from each competitor will be considered for competition results.

24. In the event of a draw, the total amount of points for those placing will be combined and then divided by the amount of drawn competitors, and the sum, will then be credited to them.

Eg: Draw for 1st place 7+5 =12 each person receives 6 points and 2nd place 3points

Eg: Draw for 2nd place 5+3 =8 each person receives 4 points no 3rd place winner

Eg: Draw for 3rd place 3 each person receives 2 points 1st and 2nd is 7 & 5 Points respectively.

25. A species competition is run during each nominated fishing year. Species which are eligible for this award are all A.N.S.A. recognized with the exception of the Ray fish family. These fish can also be caught in conjunction with regular club competition and can be used for points scoring only with-in the competition that they are caught in, or at any other time during that fishing year as long they are caught in Australian waters and with-in all current fishing rules and regulations. To qualify for a species award your capture must be over 100 points and be the highest scoring for that species in that fishing year. The points will be awarded under the same A.N.S.A. system as used for competitions results.

26. All fish are to be taken by rod and line only. Members to be in attendance of rod at all times. A maximum of only two rods permitted in freshwater as per fishing regulations. No assistance shall be provided to the angler by any other person, with the exception of taking the leader for the purpose of gaffing or netting the fish.

27. All boats which are used in competition must comply with all current boating regulations within the area they are used. The club will take no responsibility and/or be liable for any loss or damage that may be sustained in any fishing competition.

28. Interpretation of these rules shall be the domain of the committee, who shall use current A.N.S.A. rules to the extent where they will assist in their deliberation therein. The committee's decision will be final.

29. Junior Club Champion

A minimum of three (3) juniors must participate in a club competition to constitute a junior competition.

A prospective junior champion must participate in at least five (5) competitions in any one year.

Competition rules and placement for each competition are based on the specified system published for each competition by the weighmaster.

Junior Club Champion point scoring system shall be as follows:

1st Place- 4 Club Champion Points (including attendance point)

2nd Place- 3 Club Champion Points (including attendance point)

3rd Place- 2 Club Champion Points (including attendance point)

Participation at official Junior Club Competition receives 1 point.

No points are allocated to juniors unless the quorum qualifies for a junior competition.

A Junior Club Champion must accumulate a minimum of six (6) points with at least one placing to qualify for Junior Club Champion.

Attendance at official Junior Club Competition receives 1 Club Champion point.

1 participation point is allocated to a junior attending a competition when there is insufficient numbers to constitute a Junior competition.

Each Junior will receive a Participation Medallion if they accumulate 3 or more combined attendance and participation points (must attend 3 or more competitions)

Measurement Competition

1. All fish are to be measured using the brag mat.
2. If the winning margin is close the competitors brag mats may be called in for official measurement.
3. The fish head is to be pushed up to the metal strip and a photo is to be taken clearly showing the full length.
4. An object chosen by the weighmaster is to be in clear view in the photo to indicate that the fish was caught on a chosen day of competition.
5. Some competitions may state that the fins be docked instead of an object.
6. Photos presented that are not clear or do not have the correct object present may not qualify for the competition.
7. Total length of fish will be measured from the head to the fork of the tail.
8. Competitors have an hour and a half (1 ½) after the lines up time to submit their photos for the competition. Late photos will not be accepted.

9. Photos are to be posted onto the corresponding Facebook post or sent directly to the weighmaster.

Catch and Release Competition

Senior and Junior

The member with the highest C&R points at the end of the competition year for each C&R category will receive an award, the competition is run throughout the year, and Participating members are required to fill out a GS&GFC Catch and release card for each fish or amount of fish released.

Only fish released to the water in the same location of capture in healthy condition is eligible for recording.

The club will issue Catch and release score cards for members to present to the weigh master for recording.

Saltwater Catch and Release Category

- Snapper > 40cm - 30points
- Salmon > 30cm - 10points
- Gummy Shark > 60cm - 50 points
- School Shark > 60cm - 50 points
- Flathead > 50cm – 50points
- Yellowtail King Fish > 60cm – 50points
- Whiting > 35cm – 10points
- Bream >35 – 20 points
- Bluefin Tuna > 100cm – 50points

Freshwater Catch and Release will be:

- All Trout > 30cm - 10points
- Atlantic Salmon > 30cm -20points
- Quinet Salmon > 30cm-20points
- Murray Cod > 50cm – 50 points
- Trout Cod > 50cm – 50points
- Golden Perch > 30cm – 30points
- Silver perch > 30cm – 10points
- Bass > 30cm – 100points
- Barramundi > 60cm – 30points
- Redfin > 35cm – 10 points

Handling and Releasing Fish Code

- Do not place a fish on a hot, dry surface for hook removal, use a wet towel on which to rest the fish and use wet hands when handling it.
- Do not put fingers inside the gill cover or eye sockets when handling fish for release. A fish grip device may be used, and the body of the fish should be supported at all times when lifting to release the fish.
- Direct sunlight can damage fisheyes so ensure that they are shaded during time out of the water.
- Large fish should have their body fully supported at all times to avoid damage to internal organs, which may result from the fish being held upright by the jaw. The best method is to place a hand under the stomach while still in the water and take the weight off the hook.
- Very large fish should not be removed from the water.
- Fish should be released by careful placing them headfirst back into the water. Some fish may need to be swum around to promote water flow over the gills to ensure revival. Do not just throw fish overboard.

Game fishing Category

Tag and Release: as per GFAV ruling and points. Refer to Appendix 1
(Please Note : this applies to GFAV affiliated members only)

Capture: as per GFAV ruling and points. Refer to Appendix 1

***Please Note: the below references are taken from GFAV hand book 2014,
The Below is for reference only and each GS&GFC member affiliated with GFAV must
ensure they comply with all current GFAV rules at the time of capture.***

Appendix 1- Game Fishing Regulations

The following Angling Rules and Regulations have been formulated to promote ethical and sportsman-like angling practices, to establish uniform regulations for the compilation of Australian Game Fish Records and to provide basic angling guidelines for use in fishing tournaments and any other group angling activities.

The word "angling" is defined as catching or attempting to catch fish with a rod, reel, line and hook as outlined in the G.F.A.A Angling Rules and Equipment Regulations. However, there are some aspects of angling that cannot be controlled through rule-making. Angling Rules cannot ensure an outstanding performance from each fish and Australian records cannot indicate the amount of difficulty in catching the fish. Captures in which the fish has not fought or has not had a chance to fight do not reflect credit on the fisherman, and only the angler can properly evaluate the degree of achievement in establishing the record.

Only fish caught in accordance with G.F.A.A. Australian Angling Rules, and within the intent of these rules will be considered for Australian Records.

Following are rules for Saltwater, Freshwater, and Fly Fishing.

Equipment Regulations

A. LINE

1. Monofilament, multifilament, and lead core multifilament lines may be used. For line classes, see Australian Record Requirements.
2. Wire lines are prohibited.

B. LINE BACKING

1. Backing not attached to the fishing line is permissible with no restrictions as to size or material.
2. If the fishing line is attached to the backing, the catch shall be classified under the heavier of the two lines. The backing may not exceed the 60kg line class and must be of a type of line approved for use in these angling rules.

C. DOUBLE LINE

The use of a double line is not required. If one is used, it must meet the following specifications.

1. A double line must consist of the actual line used to catch the fish.
2. Double lines are measured from the start of the knot, braid, roll or splice making the double to the furthestmost end of the knot, splice, snap, swivel or other device used for securing the tract, leader, lure or hook to the double line.

Saltwater Species: In all line classes up to and including 10kg, the double line shall be limited to 4.57 metres. The combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 6.1 metres.

The double line on all classes of tackle over 10kg shall be limited to 9.14 metres. The combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 12.19 metres.

Freshwater Species: The double line on all classes of tackle shall not exceed 1.82 metres. The combined length of the double line and the leader shall not exceed 3.04 metres.

D. LEADER

The use of a leader is not required. If one is used, it must meet the following

specifications:

1. The length of the leader is the overall length including any lure, hook arrangement or other device. The leader must be connected to the line with a snap, knot, splice, swivel or other device. Holding devices are prohibited. There are no regulations regarding the material or strength of the leader.

Saltwater Species: In all line classes up to and including 10kg, the leader shall be limited to 4.57 metres. The combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 6.1 metres.

The leader on all classes of tackle over 10kg shall be limited to 9.14 metres. The combined length of the double line and leader shall be limited to 12.19 metres.

Freshwater Species: The leader on all classes of tackle shall be limited to 1.82 metres. The combined length of the double line and leader shall not exceed 3.04 metres.

E. ROD

1. Rods must comply with sporting ethics and customs. Considerable latitude is allowed in the choice of rod, but rods giving the angler an unfair advantage will be disqualified. This rule is intended to eliminate the use of unconventional rods.
2. The rod tip must be a minimum of 101.6 centimetres in length. The rod butt cannot exceed 68.58 centimetres in length. These measurements must be made from a point directly beneath the centre of the reel. A curved butt is measured in a straight line. (The above measurements do not apply to surf casting rods.)

F. REEL

1. Reels must comply with sporting ethics and customs.
2. Power driven reels of any kind are prohibited. This includes motor, hydraulic or electrically driven reels and any device which gives the angler an unfair advantage.
3. Ratchet handle reels are prohibited.
4. Reels designed to be cranked with both hands at the same time are prohibited.

G. HOOKS FOR FISHING WITH NATURAL BAIT

1. For live or dead bait fishing no more than two single hooks may be used. Both must be firmly imbedded in or securely attached to the bait. The eyes of the hooks must be no less than a hook's length (the length of the largest hook used) apart and no more than 45.72 centimetres apart. The only

exception is that the point of one hook may be passed through the eye of the other hook.

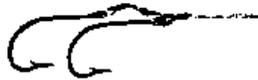


LEGAL: If eyes of hooks are no more than 45.72cm (18 ins) apart.



Not legal if eyes of hooks more than 45.72cm (18 ins) apart.

Legal if eyes of hooks less than 45.72cm (18 ins) apart.



Not legal - Eyes less than hook's length apart.



Legal - If eyes no less than hook's length apart and no more than 45.72cm (18 ins) apart.



Legal - Point of one hook may be passed through eye of other hook.

Hooks connected in this way are **ganged** hooks and not to be confused with gang hooks in Rule H.2.

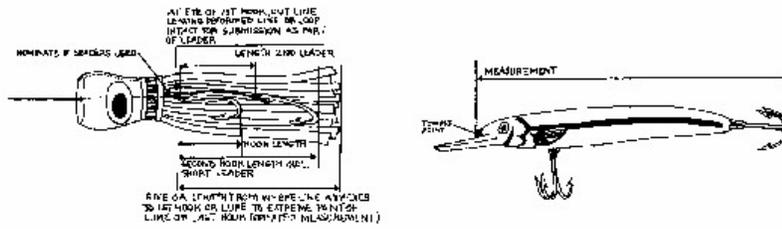
2. The use of a dangling or swing hook is prohibited. Double and treble hooks are prohibited.



3. A two-hook rig for bottom fishing is acceptable if it consists of two single hooks on separate leaders or drops. Both hooks must be imbedded in the respective baits and separated sufficiently so that a fish caught on one hook cannot be foul-hooked by the other.
4. All record applications made for two hook tackle must be accompanied by a photograph or sketch of the hook arrangement.

H. HOOKS AND LURES

1. When using an artificial lure with a skirt or trailing material, no more than two single hooks may be attached to the line, leader or trace. The hooks need not be attached separately. The eyes of the hook must be no less than an overall hook's length (overall length of the largest hook used) apart and no more than 30.48cm apart. The only exception is that the point of one hook may be passed through the eye of the other hook. The trailing hook may not extend more than a hook's length beyond the skirt of the lure. A photograph or sketch showing the hook arrangement must accompany the record application.

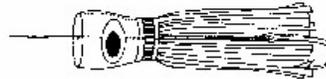


When submitting a drawing or photograph of a lure, the above information is required.

SINGLE HOOK RIG



LEGAL IF THE HOOK IS WHOLLY CONTAINED WITHIN SKIRT OF LURE.



LEGAL IF THE HOOK IS PARTIALLY CONTAINED WITHIN SKIRT OF LURE.

SINGLE HOOK RIG



NOT LEGAL IF THE HOOK IS NOT PARTIALLY OR WHOLLY CONTAINED WITHIN SKIRT OF LURE.

2 HOOK RIG

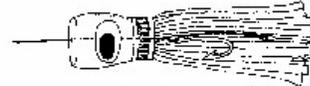


NOT LEGAL THE TRAILING HOOK MUST BE AT LEAST PARTIALLY WITHIN THE SKIRT OF THE LURE.

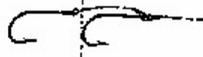
TWO HOOK RIG



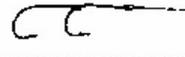
LEGAL IF THE LEADING HOOK AND THE TRAILING HOOK ARE ENTIRELY WITHIN SKIRT OF LURE.



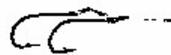
LEGAL IF ALL OF THE LEADING HOOK AND SOME OF THE TRAILING HOOK IS WITHIN SKIRT OF LURE.



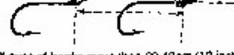
Legal - if eyes not less than hook's length apart, and no more than 30.48cm (12 inches) apart.



Legal - Point of one hook may be passed through eye of other hook.



Not Legal - Eyes less than hook's length apart.



Not Legal - If eyes of hooks more than 30.48cm (12 inches) apart. Legal - if eyes of hooks less than 30.48cm (12 inches) apart.

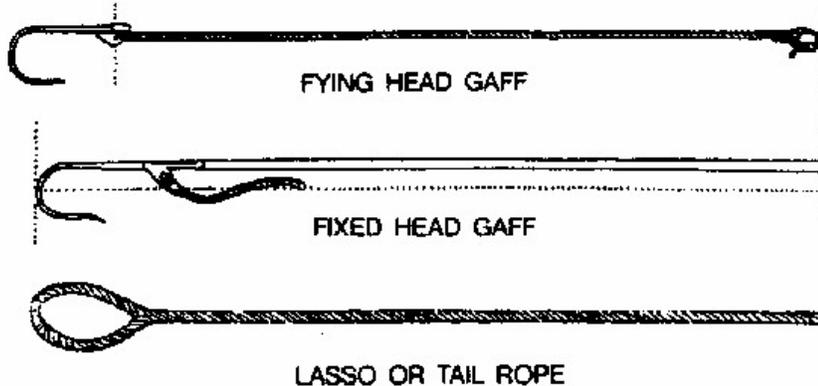
- Gang hooks are permitted when attached to plugs and other artificial lures that are specifically designed for this use. Gang hooks must be free swinging and shall be limited to a maximum of three hooks (either single, double or treble, or a combination of any three). Bait may not be used with gang hooks. A photograph or sketch of the plug or lure must be submitted with record applications. A gang hook in the intent of this rule is a hook with two or more prongs. ie. multi-pointed hook, not to be confused with ganged hooks as per diagram in Rule G.1.



I. OTHER EQUIPMENT

- Fighting chairs may not have any mechanical propelled devices which aid the angler in fighting a fish.

2. Gimbals must be free swinging, which includes gimbals that swing in a vertical plane only. Any gimbal that allows the angler to reduce strain or to rest while fighting the fish is prohibited.
3. Gaffs and nets used to boat or land a fish must not exceed 2.49 metres in overall length. (When fishing from a bridge, pier, or other high platform or structure, this length limitation does not apply.) In using a flying or detachable gaff the rope may not exceed 9.14m (30ft). The gaff rope must be measured from the point where it is secured to the detachable head to the other end. Only the effective length will be considered. If a fixed head gaff is used, the same limitation shall apply and the gaff rope shall be measure from the same location on the gaff hook. Only a single hook is permitted on any gaff. Harpoon or lance attachments are prohibited. Tail ropes are limited to 9.14 metres.



4. Floats are prohibited with the exception of any small floatation device attached to the line or leader for the sole purpose of regulated the depth of the bait. The floatation device must not in any way hamper the fighting ability of the fish.
5. Entangling devices, either with or without a hook, are prohibited and may not be used for any purpose including baiting, hooking, fighting, or landing the fish.
6. Outriggers, downriggers and kites are permitted to be used provided that the actual fishing line is attached to the snap or other release device, either directly or with some other material. The leader or double line may not be connected to the release mechanism either directly or with the use of connecting device.
7. A safety line may be attached to the rod provided that it does not in any way assist the angler in fighting the fish.

Angling Regulations

1. From the time a fish strikes or takes a bait or lure, the angler must hook, fight and land or boat the fish without the aid of any other person, except as provided for in these Regulations.
Clarification of this regulation is as follows: If the mate is letting out a bait or lure and the reel is in free spool, the rod can be put back in the cover board or handed to the angler. Under no circumstances can any drag be put on the reel. This situation is legal. The rationale is that the hook has not been set with the reel out of gear. When retrieving a bait or lure the fish would be disqualified if the rod is put back in the cover board or transferred to another person as the reel is in gear and the hook has been set.
2. If a rod holder is used and a fish takes the bait or lure the angler must remove the rod from the holder as quickly as possible.
3. In the event of a multiple strike on separate lines being fished by a single angler, only the first fish fought will be considered for an Australian record.
4. If a double line is used, the intent of the Regulations is that the fish is to be fought on the single line most of the time that it takes to land the fish.
5. A harness may be attached to the reel or rod, but not to the fighting chair. The harness may be replaced or adjusted by a person other than the angler.
6. Use of a rod belt or waist gimbal is permitted.
7. When angling from a boat, once the leader is brought within the grasp of the mate, or the end of the leader is wound to the rod tip, more than one person is permitted to hold the leader.

8. One or more gaffers may be used in addition to persons holding the leader. The gaff handle must be in hand when the fish is gaffed.
9. The Angling Rules and Equipment Regulations shall apply until a fish is weighed.

THE FOLLOWING ACTS WILL DISQUALIFY A CATCH:

1. Failure to comply with equipment or angling regulations.
2. The act of persons other than the angler in touching any part of the rod, reel, or line (including the double line) either bodily or with any device during the playing of the fish, or in giving any aid other than that allowed in the rules and regulations. If any obstacle to the passage of the line through the rod guides has to be removed from the line, then the obstacle (whether chum, floatline, rubber band, or other material) shall be held and cut free. Under no circumstances should the line be hold or touched by anyone other than the angler during this process.
3. Resting the rod in a rod holder, on the gunwale of the boat, or any other object while playing the fish.
4. Hand lining or using a handline or rope attached in any manner to the angler's line or leader for the purpose of holding or lifting the fish.
5. Shooting, harpooning lancing any fish (including sharks) at any stage of the catch.
6. Chumming with or using as bait the flesh, blood, skin, or any other part of mammals other than hair or pork rind used in lure designed for trolling or casting.
5. Using a boat or device to beach or drive a fish into shallow water in order to deprive the fish of its normal ability to swim.
6. Changing the rod or reel while the fish is being played.
7. Splicing, removing, or adding to the line while the fish is being played.
8. Intentionally foul hooking a fish.
9. Catching a fish in a manner that the double line never leaves the rod tip.
10. Using a size or kind of bait that is illegal to possess.
11. Attaching the angler's line or leader to part of the boat or other object for the purpose of holding lifting the fish.
12. If a fish escapes before gaffing or netting and is recaptured by any method other than as outlined in the angling rules.
13. The act of any person touching any part of the leader when striking or hooking a fish.

THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS WILL DISQUALIFY A CATCH:

1. When a rod breaks (while the fish is being played) in a manner that reduces the length of the tip below minimum dimensions or severely impairs its angling characteristics.
2. Mutilation to the fish, prior to landing or boating the catch, caused by sharks, other fish, mammals, or propellers that remove or penetrate the flesh. (Injuries caused by leader or line, scratches, old, healed scars or regeneration deformities are not considered to be disqualifying injuries.) Any mutilation of the fish must be shown in a photograph and fully explained in a separate report accompanying the record application.
3. When a fish is hooked or entangled on more than one line.

Rules For Fly Fishing EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS

A. LINE

Any type of fly line and backing may be used. The breaking strength of the fly line and backing are not restricted.

B. LEADER

Leaders must conform to generally accepted fishing customs.

A leader includes a class tippet and, optionally, a shock tippet. A butt or taper section between the fly line and the class tippet shall also be considered part of the leader and there are no limits on its length, material, or strength.

A class tippet must be made of non-metallic material and either attached directly to the fly or to the shock tippet if one is used. The class tippet must be at least 38.10cm long (measured inside connecting knots). With respect to knotless, tapered leaders, the terminal 38.10cm will also determine tippet class. There is no maximum length limitation. The breaking strength determines the class of the tippet.

A shock tippet, not to exceed 30.84cm in length, may be added to the class tippet and tied to the lure. It can be made of any type of material, and there is no limit on its breaking strength. The shock tippet is measured from the eye of the hook to the single strand of class tippet and includes any knots used to connect the shock tippet to the class tippet. In the case of the tandem hook fly, the shock tippet shall be measured from the eye of the leading hook.

C. ROD

Regardless of material or number of sections, rods must conform to generally accepted fly-fishing customs and practices. A rod shall not measure less than 1.82m (6ft) in overall length. Any rod that gives the angler an unsporting advantage will be disqualified. Extension butts are limited to 15.24cm.

D. REEL

The reel must be designed expressly for fly fishing. There are no restrictions on gear ratio or type of drag employed except where the angler would gain an unfair advantage. Electric or electronically operated reels are prohibited.

E. HOOKS

A conventional fly may be dressed on a single hook or double hook or two single hooks in tandem. The second hook in any tandem fly must not exceed beyond the wing material. The eyes of the hooks shall be no farther than 15.24cm apart. Treble hooks are prohibited.

F. LURES

The lure must be a recognised type of artificial fly, which includes streamer, bucktail, tube fly, wet fly, dry fly, nymph, popper, and bug. The use of any other type of lure or natural or preserved bait, either singularly or attached to the fly, is expressly prohibited. The fact that a lure can be cast with a fly rod is not evidence in itself that it fits the definition of a fly. The use of any lure designed to entangle or foul hook a fish is prohibited.

G. GAFFS & NETS

Gaffs and nets used to boat or land a fish must not exceed 2.48 metres in overall length. (When fishing from a bridge, pier or other high stationary structure, this length limitation does not apply.) The use of a flying gaff is not permitted. Only a single hook is permitted on any gaff. Harpoon or lance attachments are prohibited.

H. 15kg Category Rules

1. 15kg tippet is for billfish & sharks only.

2. Shock tippet length not to exceed 100cm (1m).
3. A minimum 500cm of fly line must be used.
4. Flying gaffs are permitted for this line class only.
5. All other GFAA rules and regulations for fly fishing apply.

Angling Regulations

1. The angler must cast, hook, fight, and bring the fish to gaff or net unaided by any other person. No other person may touch any part of the tackle during the playing of the fish or give aid other than taking the leader for gaffing or netting purposes.
2. Casting and retrieving must be carried out in accordance with normal customs and generally accepted practices. The major criterion in casting is that the weight of the line must carry the lure rather than the weight of the lure carrying the line. Trolling a lure behind a moving watercraft is not permitted. The craft must be completely out of gear both at the time the fly is presented to the fish and during the retrieve.
3. Once a fish is hooked, the tackle may not be altered in any way, with exception of adding an extension butt.
4. Fish must be hooked on the lure in use. If a small fish takes the lure and a larger fish swallows the smaller fish, the catch will be disallowed.
5. One or more people may assist in gaffing or netting the fish.
6. The angling and equipment regulations shall apply until the fish is weighed.

THE FOLLOWING ACTS WILL DISQUALIFY A CATCH:

1. Failure to comply with equipment or angling regulations.
2. The act of persons other than the angler in touching any part of the rod, reel, or line either bodily or with any device during the playing of the fish, or in giving any aid other than that allowed in the rules and regulations. If an obstacle to the passage of the line through the rod guides has to be removed from the line, then the obstacle shall be held and cut free. Under no circumstances should the line be held or touched by anyone other than the angler during this process.
3. Resting the rod on any part of the boat, or on any other object while playing the fish.
4. Hand lining or using handline or rope attached in any manner to the angler's line or leader for the purposes of holding or lifting the fish.
5. Intentionally foul-hooking or snagging a fish.
6. Shooting, harpooning, or lancing any fish (including sharks) at any stage of the catch.
7. Chumming with flesh, blood, skin, or any part of mammals.
8. Using a boat or device to beach or drive a fish into shallow water in order to deprive the fish of its normal ability to swim.
9. Attaching the angler's line or leader to part of a boat or other object for the purpose of holding or lifting the fish.
10. If a fish escapes before gaffing or netting and is recaptured by any method other than as outlined in the angling rules.

THE FOLLOWING SITUATIONS WILL DISQUALIFY A CATCH:

1. When a rod breaks (while the fish is being played) in a manner that reduces its length below minimum dimensions or severely impairs its angling characteristics.
2. When a fish is hooked or entangled on more than one line.
3. Mutilation to the fish, prior to landing or boating the catch, caused by sharks, other fish, mammals, or propellers that remove or penetrate the flesh. (Injuries caused by leader or line, scratches, old healed scars or regeneration deformities are not considered to be disqualifying injuries.) Any mutilation of the fish must be shown in a photograph and fully explained in a separate report accompanying the record application.

Guidelines for Tag & Release

1. All G.F.A.A. angling rules and equipment regulations apply until the fish is tagged.
2. Tag poles must not exceed 4.57m overall length.
3. The tag pole or holding device must be in the hand when the fish is tagged.
4. One or more persons, in addition to the person holding the leader, may tag or assist in tagging the fish.
5. The tag needle must not protrude more than 50mm from the end of the tag pole or tag holding device, nor shall it exceed 5mm in diameter.
6. Marlin only tag: the tag needle must not protrude more than 76mm from the end of the tag pole or tag holding device, nor shall it exceed 8mm in diameter.
7. A fish is considered tagged and released when the tag is secured to the fish.

THE FOLLOWING ACTS WILL DISQUALIFY A TAG & RELEASE:

1. Failure to comply with G.F.A.A. angling rules and equipment regulations or tournament tag & release rules.
2. Failure to comply with all other regulations that disqualify a capture.
3. Use of a gaff (other than release/jaw gaff for the purpose of tagging). No tournament shall be approved, by a State Association, that awards points for free release for G.F.A.A. tag species. No tag & release points shall be awarded in State Association approved tournaments unless G.F.A.A. approved tags are used.